

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the foregoing amendment, independent claim 45 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention. No new matter has been added.

Amended claim 45 is believed to be allowable over the prior art cited in the Office Action as well as the five (5) new references mentioned briefly in the comments accompanying the Advisory Action of yesterday's date.

Grimes (US 6,740,120), which is cited in the Advisory Action, describes a bone prosthesis for implantation at a joint includes a stem having a tip generally at one end thereof. The stem is sized and shaped for reception in a bone at the joint such that the tip of the stem is exposed to locations outside of the bone. The stem has a passageway extending from a first location on the bone prosthesis to a second location on the bone prosthesis. That passageway is arranged to vent fluid from a first location which is subject to elevated fluid pressures when the joint is in use after implantation of the prosthesis to a second location for venting fluid pressure from the first location to the second location thereby to inhibit fluid pressure build up between bone located at the joint and the prosthesis. Grimes does not describe or suggest any method wherein a particular reamer and a particular prosthetic femoral head are selected based on the patient's by weight (alone or in combination with other body characteristic(s) to result in a post-surgical arrangement in which fluid that naturally accumulates in the space between the prosthetic femoral head and an inner surface of a reamed acetabular socket has a hydrostatic pressure within the range of 0.01MPa-5MPa, as recited in the presently amended claims.

Accordingly, as amended, the claims are believed to be fully in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112 and allowable over the cited prior art.

A Request for Examination (RCE) is being filed herewith. Applicant hereby petitions for a three (3) month extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136. The fee for such extension as well as the filing fee for the accompanying RCE are being paid electronically concurrently with filing.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0878.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Robert D. Buyan/

Robert D. Buyan
Registration No. 32,460

STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS, LLP
4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92513
Telephone: (949)450-1750
Facsimile: (949)450-1764